

You don't get rid of Spock that easily

At the end of the second *Star Trek* movie *The Wrath of Khan* brave, pointy-eared Spock died ... or did he?

We know he sacrificed himself for the safety of his friends on the *Starship Enterprise* because, as the script portentously proclaimed, "the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few".

We saw his coffin shot off into space to settle gently on the Genesis planet while Admiral Kirk, Scotty, Chekov, Sulu and Uhura said their farewells and returned sadly to base. But Trekkies everywhere knew that was not the end.

Star Trek without Spock (Leonard Nimoy) the part-Vulcan, wholly logical first officer of the *Enterprise* was unthinkable. (And more than likely, unprofitable).

Something had to be done, and of course something has been done. In *Star Trek III: The Search for Spock*, the latest and best of the movies spawned from the old television series, doubts begin to surface about Spock's death.

Aliens, even half-aliens

STAR TREK III: The Search for Spock
(Albert, NRC)
★ ★ ★ ★

like Spock, are not like ordinary humans, and who knows what strange powers they have?

So when "Bones" McCoy (De Forest Kelley) starts to act stranger than usual, muttering things like, "Jim, help me" and "Climb the slopes of Mount Seleya", Kirk (William Shatner) suspects his old friend, or at least some essential element of him, is still around.

That the *Enterprise* team will go back to the now highly-unstable Genesis planet to look for Spock is never in doubt. It is also never in doubt that they will find something. But what? And what will be the cost?

The fact that Leonard Nimoy is director of this most handsome and (of course) logical of the *Star Trek* films makes Spock's return in his familiar form unlikely. As for the cost ... that is so high it ensures no future *Star Trek* movie can conform to the old television series pattern.

Films

By MARY MacDONALD

The search of Spock is no easy matter. For one thing, the planet given life by the marvellous Genesis device in the second movie is now evolving at breakneck speed — a situation giving opportunity for many of the film's more remarkable special effects.

Then too, old enemies the Klingons, led by Kruge (Christopher Lloyd) in his elegantly sinister Bird of Prey starship, are also on the war-path. Kruge is not interested in Spock, but in discovering the secret of the Genesis device.

For *Star Trek III: The Search for Spock* the old faces from the television series are back.

Besides William Shatner and De Forest Kelley as Kirk and McCoy, James Doohan again appears as Scotty, Walter Koenig as Chekov, George Takei as Sulu, and Nichelle Nichols as Uhura.

Giving a touch of class to the fast-moving, good-look-



THE ultimate astronauts — Scotty (James Doohan), Chekov (Walter Koenig), and Admiral James T. Kirk (William Shatner).

ing space opera is Dame Judith Anderson, making a special appearance to the pivotal role of the Vulcan High Priestess T'Lar. It is her first screen role in 14 years.

Screenwriter for the film was Harve Bennett, and to him, and to Nimoy's knowing

direction, must go the credit for much of the film's success.

The whole comes out just like the much-loved television series — only bigger and better. Best of all is the promise at the end "...and the adventure continues."

But actors need more than big biceps

Bodies beautiful abound in *Conan the Destroyer*.

Most splendid of these is that of Arnold Schwarzenegger as Conan, hero of comic books for 52 years and Cimerian "thief, wanderer, slayer with gigantic melancholies and gigantic mirth".

Arnold, five times Mr Universe and seven times Mr Olympia, has more muscles than seem possible. He has not quite got the hang of dialogue and acting but when the script requires him to pole-axe, with his fist, a camel foolish enough to spit at him — well, that camel looks properly stunned.

Giving Arnold some competition in the well-built category is 7ft American sports star Wilt Chamberlain as Bombaata and 2 m, 125 kg Sven-Ole Thorsen as Togra.

Well-built is not the right description for disco singer-performer Grace Jones as the Amazonian Zula.

But she is undeniably spectacular. She is not a bad actor

CONAN THE DESTROYER
(Forum, M)
★ ★

either, though not much emphasis is placed on dramatic talent in this tale, set, as the credits say, "in the days of high adventure".

In this second of the Conan films, the hero is captured — but only after a gigantic struggle in which he demolishes an entire raiding party. Hauled off to the Place of Taramis (Sarah Douglas) he learns he is to guide pure young Jehenna (Olivia D'Abo) and her guardian Bombaata to a distant stronghold in the middle of a magical lake.

It's Bo — but that's all

BOLERO, the second body beautiful film of the week, did not stay round long enough for a review.

It came and went in six days in a now-you-see-it-now-you-don't season.

There he will find a key guarded by an evil magician. Only a virgin can safely steal the key that will unlock mysterious treasures. Conan and company do the job with a maximum of action and return to the palace for yet more action.

The fight scenes, of which there are a great many in *Conan the Destroyer*, are all exceedingly bloodthirsty though not much actual blood is spilt.

For those who appreciate sword and sorcery films, this one has all the usual ingredients plus a lead actor who really looks the part. Arnold can't act but what does that matter? Conan probably couldn't either.

Of course, all of Bo Derek was on display. For those panting to catch it (and panting is the right word) it was every bit as dreadful as reports suggested.



THE SPECTACULAR Grace Jones as Zula in *Conan the Destroyer*